

136A 10/18.04 10/695524

* The Applicant(s) believe(s) that this statement and enclosures are being filed before the first Office action on the merits has been mailed by the PTO. The basis of this belief is that no Office action on the merits appears to have been received by the undersigned to date.

FEE PAYMENT

The following arrangements have been made to pay the fees calculated above:

* No fee is believed to be due.

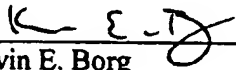
REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION

This paper and enclosures are believed to be entitled to consideration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, based on the facts stated above. The Examiner is requested to initial a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 and return to the Applicant(s) to indicate consideration of the enclosed references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which are presently required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-0017.

Date: October 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


Kevin E. Borg
Reg. No. 51,486
Agent for Applicant(s)

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